

**641—2.12(135) Awareness information.** Information distributed by the department shall contain the following statements:

**2.12(1)** HCV infection rates for veterans are estimated to be at least three times higher than the general population.

**2.12(2)** Vietnam veterans experience a higher HCV infection rate than other veteran groups.

**2.12(3)** Exposure to blood during combat and combat-related medical services poses a risk for HCV infection.

**2.12(4)** Many veterans currently infected with HCV may have been exposed prior to the development of screening tests.

**2.12(5)** Symptoms and liver complications associated with chronic hepatitis infection may not appear for decades after initial infection.